

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of this application is requested. The present application contains claims 1-6 and 9-17. Claims 7-8 and 18 have been canceled. Independent claim 1 has been amended to include subject matter of canceled claims 7 and 8. Independent claim 10 has been similarly amended, and includes subject matter of canceled claim 18. Claim 9 has been amended to depend from amended claim 1. Claim 17 has been amended to be consistent with amended claim 10.

Claims 1-3, 5-7, 10 and 14-18 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Winter (WO 99/29104). Claim 4 stands rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Winter in view of Arai et al (EP 0921682). Claims 8-9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Winter in view of Kikinis (U.S. Patent 5,929,849). Claims 11-12 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Winter in view of Yanagihara (US Patent 6,211,800). Claim 13 stands rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Winter in view of Suzuki (US Patent 6,344,836). Independent Claims 1 and 10 have been amended to recite subject matter not disclosed or suggested in the cited references of record, either singularly or in combination. More particularly, amended claim 1 recites:

A method for providing graphics display, comprising the steps
of:

receiving a bitstream including an MPEG compliant
program bitstream and a DVD subpicture compliant bitstream;

extracting and decoding the MPEG compliant bitstream
to generate a program image signal;

extracting and decoding the DVD subpicture compliant bitstream to generate a graphic image signal; and

combining the program image signal and the graphic image signal to provide an output display signal, wherein the DVD subpicture compliant bitstream comprises an interactive graphic having selectable regions that, when selected, causes the display of other DVD subpicture graphics associated with said subpicture compliant bitstream.

In the present office action, the Examiner rejected (now canceled) claim 8 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Winter in view of Kikinis. In his rejection, Examiner admits that Winter "fails to specifically teach where the interactive graphic comprises selectable regions that, when selected, causes the display of other DVD subpicture graphics". Examiner then points to the Kikinis reference that discloses a "display system that receives a data stream having successive image frame data in frame regions and Internet Universal Resource Locator (URL) data and associated data in the regions between frame regions, and displays on a display monitor successive frames with one or more URLs, and a viewer, by selecting an associated image entity in the display, causes the system to access the internet, connect to a source on the internet associated with the URL, to download a WEB page from the source, and display the WEB page in the display." The Examiner then concludes that it would have been obvious "to incorporate the teaching of Kikinis into the system of Winter in order to allow the user to interact with data subpicture or graphic images to retrieve other information." However, no combination of Winter and Kikinis discloses or suggests that a "DVD subpicture compliant bitstream comprises an interactive graphic having selectable regions that, when

selected, causes the display of other DVD subpicture graphics associated with said subpicture compliant bitstream” as recited in amended claim 1. Kikinis merely teaches accessing a separate stream of internet data via a separate port connected to a modem by using information contained in inter frame regions of a received data stream. Such combination with Winter, assuming arguendo a proper nexus of Kikinis with Winter, fails to disclose or suggest the aforementioned features of present claim 1, namely causing the display of other DVD subpicture graphics associated with a subpicture compliant bitstream. For at least these reasons, applicants respectfully submit that amended claim 1 is patentable in a ‘103 sense over the combination of Winter and Kikinis. The Arai et al, Yanagihara, and Suzuki references fail to overcome the deficiencies of Winter and Kikinis. In view of the above, allowance of independent claim 1 and of claims 2-6 and 9 depending therefrom, is requested.

In similar fashion, amended claim 10 recites

A video signal processing apparatus, comprising:

means for receiving a bitstream comprising a MPEG compliant bitstream and a DVD subpicture compliant bitstream;

means for parsing the received bitstream, and routing the MPEG compliant bitstream to a MPEG decoder, and routing the DVD subpicture compliant bitstream to a DVD subpicture processor, the MPEG decoder generating a program image signal in response to the MPEG compliant bitstream, the DVD subpicture processor generating a graphic image signal in response to the DVD subpicture compliant bitstream;

means for combining the program image signal and the graphic image signal to provide an output image signal; and

a display processor coupled to the combining means for displaying said output image, wherein the DVD subpicture compliant bitstream comprises an interactive graphic having selectable regions that, when selected, causes the display of other DVD subpicture graphics associated with said subpicture compliant bitstream.

Claim 10 also patentably distinguishes over the cited references of record, which clearly fail to disclose each of the above-mentioned limitations. Claims 11-17, depending ultimately from independent claim 10 are likewise patentable, at least by virtue of their dependency from base claim 10, and should be allowed.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-6 and 9-17 are in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration is requested.

If a telephone conference would be of assistance in advancing prosecution of the above-identified application, Applicants' undersigned Attorney invites the Examiner to telephone him at 609-734-6815.

Respectfully Submitted

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